

Thomas Bullitt to George Washington, March 24, 1757, two same date, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS BULLITT.

VASS—March ye. 24th. 1757¹ —

SIR

I Recd. yours Janry. Ist. wherein you was pleased to Signifie that I had not proceeded in a Regular Manner in not Laying in a formal Complaint if I was not well used by my Capt. I am not unsensible Sir, of the Difficulty an Enferiour Officer Encounters, when he Says, in a Compt. of that Nature against one of his Superiours in Clearly proving Alligations, especially when such Superiour by our Doing Duty so far from ye. Regt. Chiefly Comands, for this Reason did not Care to be Concern'd in any such affair if in my power to avoid —

Since Capt. Hog has bin pleased to Signifie in his Letters to you that I am in Fault, and that his Honr. the Governor thought so, Beg Leave to Lay my Reasons before you for Writing my former Letters

Capt. Hog at his Departure from fort Dinwiddie Left Injunctions with me to purchase Beef to be Recd. in Fall Season, also Injoyn'd me to send him returns from Time, to Time of the Quanty. I agreed for, that he might give further Instructions when I had a Sufficiency & ye Quantity to Receive, pursuant to which I agreed, for a parcel of Beeves, Likewise Capt.

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Hog & Mr. Fleming for Quantity's, tho Different persons who had Ingaged their Beeves to us, about the first of Novembr. Drove them in, at which Time I had no Orders how to proceed (further than Above Mentioned) Nor any Acct. of those purchased Except my own Engagmts. more than by a Letter from Mr. Fleming Acqg. me he had by his Cpts. Orders bought for use of that Fort, Upon which I sent a Messengr. for full Instructions who returned in about Sixteen days without any such (& Informed me he had Leave from his Capt. to go by Stanton) at this Suspence I was Kept Till December (tho sent Three Times) And Nounbers of Beeves Tendered me the Owners whereof threatened the suing for Damages if I did not Receive them, from this, the Cold Reception I met with from Capt. Hog in his Behaviour on Return to Fort & also his Informing Majr. Lewis I had not Acted well in Regard to Victualling the Garrn I coud not but Immagine it was more than probable (on some Dislike Taken at me) he Intended to make all Opertunity's for my Being Guilty of some Misconduct, then get Clear of me in a Maner that might Reflect Dishonour on me.

Tho as I have Recd. all the Civilities Due from a Gentn. of Capt. Hogs Rank to one of mine (Since the Rect. of your Letter my own Inclosed) should not have Troubled you with this, & do it in my own Vindication. Tho shall on All Occasions (while I Receive the Like Usage) discharge my Duty in his Company, Till you will be pleased to Favour the Gentn. with a Subn. in my Room of a More polite Taste, & Liberal Education, in which I shall Think myself under as Great Obligations, to you as what Capt. Hog can be, I am Sir, your Most

Obedt. Humbl. Servt. THOS. BULLITT

¹ This letter, although dated "March," is placed here on account of the following indorsement by Washington—"From Capt. Thos. Bullitt 24th. Sep 1757."